

Dear Honorable Members of the Environment Committee

Please vote no on HB 5295 that establishes a factory-like farming program to slaughter thousands of rabbits for food consumption under the guise of promoting farming in the state. Rabbits are the third most popular family pet after dogs and cats. While the rest of the country has recognized and elevated rabbits as pets and innovation in the agriculture field is moving away from meat products, CT is taking a step backward in proposing this initiative.

Please support and improve SB 239: Poisons used to kill rodents (rodenticides) find their way into the ecosystem and wreak havoc with wildlife especially hawks, owls, eagles and other birds of prey and even jeopardize children and pets. This bill is a good first step, but stronger measures are needed. Please support a ban on lethal second-generation products and limit the use of first-generation rodenticides on state property and public land including wildlife habitats.

Thank you,

James M. St. Germain  
17 Auburn Road  
West Hartford, CT 06119